

21 December 1951

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Assistant Director, Collection & Dissemination

**FROM:** Assistant Director for Communications

**SUBJECT:** Development of a Facsimile Security System

**REFERENCE:** Memorandum from DD/CD to AD/CO dated  
11 December 1951

1. The Assistant Director, Collection and Dissemination has requested cooperation by the Office of Communications in the development of a secure cipher system for use in connection with operation of an expanded CIA INTELLOFAX distribution network.

2. It is understood that the highest security classification for matter handled via this network is secret. National Defense Research Committee standards provide that a facsimile subject may be considered to have been rendered secret when it is so coded that no means may be improvised to decode other than by means of the appropriate code and essential equipment. This is an ideal condition, probably not attainable in practice, particularly in equipment suitable for this operation. Further, a coded facsimile subject may be considered to have been rendered "private" from a military point of view when at least 72 hours are required to reproduce the essential intelligence of the original copy.

3. To assist in development of facsimile cryptographic equipment suitable for needs in your office it will be helpful to have your statement of the relative degree of privacy (in terms of hours or days) which will be required in transmission of information via the INTELLOGAX system. Meanwhile, I am directing the Communications Engineering Division to reactivate its Cifax Project, tying that Project where appropriate, to studies currently being undertaken on voice (telephone) secrecy systems.

H. M. McClelland

Orig 

cc: OC-E, Development for Action

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